

STORIES ABOUT TOWN.

There Was a Day When Newsboys Wouldn't Sell.

TAUGHT BY KANSAS CITY TALENT.

Something Pertaining to the Theatrical Business—Too Many Young Girls on the Streets.

One of the genuine "old time prints" who came to the west almost before Kansas was born and who remembers so many things in the history of the state, that he should be filed away for reference in the rooms of the historical society is S. D. McDonald, who is still an employe of the Journal's mechanical department.

Soon after the old State Record was established about 1898, he was here and was one of its employes. It was about the first daily newspaper in Topeka and was the property of Mr. S. D. McDonald and Mr. F. P. Baker.

As it was originally started it was a four column folio and very much Republican in politics. Captain Henry Klug, now the editor-in-chief of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, was the editor and Noble Prentiss, now one of the editors of the Kansas City Star, was the sole reporter. It was a lively little affair and many a Democrat of the early days felt the scraping of its fine teeth comb.

The legislature was meeting around then most any where it got a chance. The senate met for awhile in the rooms above what is now Rowley's ticket office while the house met in a church on Quincy street. The senate afterwards moved to the Congregational church on Harrison. This was before the temporary capitol was built on Kansas avenue near Fifth street on the west side. The building has long since been changed around and is now occupied by stores.

And to get back to the Record. "The town's population at that time numbered about seven thousand," said Mr. McDonald, "and we had a good patronage if the office was small and we had only three printers. We had an idea, though, that we were built for better things and concluded to put on a lot of news boys. Topeka had never then seen a newsboy—that is, a live one.

"The newsboys were timid. Try as we might, we could not succeed to any great extent with them because they were too new to the business. We were papers without blushing. They would take their papers and go out on the street and after one or two ineffectual little whoops subsided into most discouraging silence. We tried coaxing and then tried threats. The only result was that several of the boys quit discouraged. We were about to give up the whole business up in disgust when a bright idea struck us. We would import a boy from Kansas City and have him give our boys a few lessons.

"In due time our professor of street eloquence arrived and began his duties. He earned his salary by taking the boys out in the vacant lots in the edge of town in the mornings and try them singly and in pairs and as a body. They were slow, but under his tutelage they showed signs of improvement and their feeble little shouts soon became yells of considerable dimensions. I believe he had to 'tick' three or four of them to do it, but the plan was a success, and the boys were proud of their advancement.

"They vied with each other for the honor of superiority, and for awhile they made such a noise about the office while waiting for their papers that we had to take steps to prevent it.

"Topeka has never since known a newsboy who had not the moral courage to speak right out in meeting whenever it was necessary."

JOHN REFUSED TO BE SAVED.

A Mesquite, Kansas, Farmer Who Was Too Much for a Topeka Evangelist.

A Topeka man, who was once an evangelist, while he is very devout, has a thorough appreciation of the ridiculous even if it does jar a little on his piety at times. He told a JOURNAL reporter this story today:

"I was out in northeastern Kansas once some years ago doing what I could in my weak way for the Lord's cause, and had succeeded in getting up quite a revival at Mesquite, Dickinson county.

"I was having great success, but before I got through with the meeting I ran against a most discouraging stone wall by the name of Williams. John was a good-natured sort of a fellow from the country, but he never came to town that he didn't get almost too full to walk, in spite of the continued efforts of the two drug stores in the place, to see that he didn't get anything.

"Naturally he had heard of my meeting, and he came to them once or twice. He seemed to me to be a shining example of sin and I concluded it would be a great triumph to win him to the Lord's side. I sounded him the first and second time he came and thought I was making great progress, so I made up my mind one afternoon that the next time he came I would save him in spite of his load.

"He was there that evening, drunk, as usual, but respectably quiet.

"I preached what I regarded as an extra powerful sermon, and thought I saw John weakening. I had pictured in such burning terms the horrors of drunkenness. While the choir sang 'Come to Jesus Right Now,' I 'labored' with John. He listened silently with head inclined and twirled his broad rimmed and dirty black hat in his hands. I was a full half hour with him and the choir had sung so many touching invitations that it was getting cross.

"Don't you think you could lead a better life with God's help?" I asked.

"The hat continued to revolve.

"Come brother, accept the spirit now," I urged.

"Still no answer.

"This may be your last chance. Don't you want to take Jesus home with you tonight?"

"The hat stopped and John raised his head.

"Not tonight, stranger," he said, and there was a shrewd twinkle in his eye. "Not tonight. I'm in a bossack, no' besides he'd have to sleep on the floor."

"I gave John up."

GOOD BUSINESS THIS YEAR.

Two Men Who Claim to Know Say Shows Will Play to It.

Harrie E. Pierce, the handsome young man who is "ahead" of Lincoln Carter's "Fast Mail," was in Topeka yesterday in the interest of his show. He and Secretary Huff of the Crawford circuit were hidden behind the fragrance of their

fifteen cent cigars in Huff's office when a reporter dropped in to see if he shouldn't call the fire department. Of course the only subject on earth was the show business and the effect the financial distress and the crop failure would have on it in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado, with an occasional opinion about Missouri thrown in.

"I tell you," said Pierce, "there is not so much in this crop scare as people who haven't been around think. Of course crops are in bad shape, but the farmer is not so much worse off as he would make the city man who buys his grain believe. What he can't raise in corn he can in lamentation. Of course there will not be half a crop, but isn't the farmer going to get more than twice as much per bushel as he would if he had a good average?"

"I am not at all worried about the future of the show business for this winter. Everything points to better times, and I will say that so far as our show is concerned, our business up to this time has been better than it has been in the same season before for several years. I am not alone in this statement; I have heard several other people in the business say the same thing."

"We have had poor openings all over, though," ventured Huff, as he changed position to dodge the glare of Pierce's diamond.

"Well, don't you think the whole winter's business is going to be better than it has been for a long time?"

"Assuredly I do. Our local managers report the prospect bright everywhere, and I think we will be able to put a new stage carpet in the Grand next fall," said Huff. "The shows that are out are going to make money for themselves and the houses, for the reason, principally, that there aren't going to be many bum shows out this year."

But then, a showman said that last year.

THEY NEED A SPANNING.

Girls of Fourteen Who Think More of the Boys Than of Their Books.

They were about the same age, which couldn't have been more than fifteen, perhaps only fourteen, and they were pretty enough to attract the reporter's attention. They were walking up Kansas avenue arm in arm and were talking as fast as their gum would let them. Both wore short dresses that were not made up in exactly the latest fashion, but were still very neat because they were clean and white, which, the reporter couldn't help thinking after hearing their conversation, was a credit to their mothers.

"I have just been down to see George. You know he is the elevator boy in the building, and I rode up and down with him ever so many times no matter whether anybody else wanted to ride or not. I had some candy that I bought with the money mamma gave me and we just had an out of sight time."

(Gentle observation by the reporter that George would hold his job long if the proprietor gets on his feet.)

"Do you know, I haven't seen Johnny since yesterday," chattered the brunette. "It is just too provoking. Mamma made me stay at home last night. I was going to meet him on the corner and we were going to the show. I had told mamma I was going to stay with Nellie all night but I guess she didn't have time because it was no go."

"Do you know that horrid Frank Johnson was down to our gate last night and wanted to take me out walking? I didn't think George would ever tumble, so I went. And do you know the little fool wanted to kiss me almost before we got out of sight of the house?"

"Did you let him?"

"Well, not then, and I wish I hadn't at all, now. Joe McCall saw us out and told George, and I had to 'fess up today. George was awful mad, but finally we went up to the top story where there wasn't anybody and made up. It was awful nice."

"Oh, get just think, school begins Monday. I almost feel like running away. I just bet I won't study for spite. John and I are going walking every evening, though, when the weather is good, and I can fool the folks."

A bright thought struck the blonde: "I'll tell you," she said, "you tell your mamma you're coming over to see me and I'll tell my mamma I'm going over to see you. We'll show 'em whether we can go with the boys or—"

They reached Sixth street just then and turned west, and while the reporter was hurrying on, he heard help wondering if the good women of today had been girls of the sort he had just seen.

T. B. JENNINGS "SCALPED."

He is the Only Man on Earth Ever Scalped on the Leg.

It is not generally known that Weather Officer J. B. Jennings was scalped in the Kansas Indian war of 1867, but he was. Moreover, Mr. Jennings enjoys the distinction of being the only man on record who was ever scalped on the leg.

Mr. Jennings has not a great deal of hair under his hat, but he has nearly as much now as he had twenty-five years ago. An Indian does not take a great deal of pride in a bald-headed scalp. It is about as valuable to him as a stale story is to a reporter. Mr. Jennings says the Indian caught a glimpse of his head and with a howl of rage buried his tomahawk in his right shin. The scar is there yet, and every time it is going to rain the rheumatism, caused by that wound, becomes almost unbearable. But there is a little good in every misfortune, and much of Mr. Jennings' success as a predictor of things to come, lies in his rheumatic leg.

SUPPOSE HE WERE BALD.

In That Case Dr. Lucinda Thompson's Cure Wouldn't Work.

There was a bit of funny testimony yesterday afternoon in the case of Lucinda Thompson, who was on trial for practicing medicine without a physician's permit. Prosecuting Attorney Arthur McCabe was testing her knowledge of medical affairs, and "falling of the palate" was among the other medical subjects under discussion.

"Mrs. Thompson, how would you effect a cure in a case of falling of the palate?" McCabe asked.

"Fallin' f de pallet? Why sah, deys a bunch of hair on the top of de head dat yo wants to tie up wid a string and de pallet will cum up ob its own accord. Yo want ter be sho to get de right bunch or de cure won't work."

The question in Judge Hazen's mind was how the cure would be effected on a bald-headed man.

The STATE JOURNAL'S Want and Miscellaneous columns reach each working day in the week more than twice as many Topeka people as can be reached through any other paper. This is a fact.

STEVENSON & COMPANY.

Special.: Linen.: Sale

Next week we will have our LINEN SALE. You all know what bargains we give you. WE WILL GIVE YOU VALUES never before heard of—not two or three pieces to pick from, but our whole stock, a special line purchased at Job Prices for your benefit.

33c
Will buy during this sale a heavy unbleached table linen, 50-inch wide, fully worth 40c. They are worth seeing at 33c.

49c
Here is a "Great Bargain," 58-inch [notice the width], all linen. It can't be matched for 60c. We will sell it at 49c.

63c
Here is another equally as cheap, in fact a little cheaper considering the width, 62-inch, and the quality, heavy Barnsley linen, worth 75c, next week 63c.

75c
Here is another fine Barnsley extra weight, 66-inch wide, would be cheap at 87c. You can buy it during this sale for 75c.

79c
Here is one you must not fail to see. An extra fine Barnsley linen, full 66 inch. You paid \$1 for this goods last week; 75c buys it now.

93c
Our finest cream damask, 66-inch wide, well worth \$1.10, for 93c.

Table Sets.
10-4 cloth and 1 doz napkins, worth \$4, for \$3.
8-10 cloth and 1 doz napkins, cut from \$6.75 to \$3.50.
12-4 cloth and 1 doz napkins, worth \$6.75, reduced to \$3.50.
10-4 cloth and 1 doz napkins reduced from \$5.00 to \$4.25.
10-4 cloth and 1 doz napkins, worth \$6, now \$5.
10-4 cloth and 1 doz napkins reduced from \$7 to \$6.

Bleached Table Linen.
39c
Here is another "Job." 500 yards bleached linen damask, bought for a 50c linen; 39c will buy it during this sale.

49c
Another "Job." A little better 68-inch wide damask. This was bought for a 65c selling; we are going to sell it for 49c.

47c
Buys a 54-inch bleached linen damask, good quality, worth 60c, for 47c.

63c
Here surely is a "Bargain." A heavy bleached damask, 64-inch wide; you have paid 75c for the same quality and thought it cheap. Get an early look at this for 63c.

73c
Buys a good heavy bleached damask, 64-inch, cheap enough at \$1. Next week for 75c.

\$1.00
A fine bleached damask, 66-inch wide, handsome patterns. This grade usually sells for \$1.18 to \$1.20, sale price \$1.

\$1.25
An extra fine double damask, full 72-inch wide, very pretty designs. This was marked as a bargain at \$1.40. We are going to do still better, making it \$1.25 for this sale.

Hemstitch'd Sets.
9x10-4 cloth and 1 dozen napkins, reduced from \$7 to \$6.00.
8-10 cloth and 1 doz napkins, worth \$10, selling now for \$8.75.
9x10-4 cloth and 1 dozen napkins, reduced from \$10.50 to \$9.50. Visit our store next week.

\$1.35
Will buy a 72-inch fine satin damask, our regular \$1.75 quality, and it is worth it. \$1.35 will buy it now. A limited amount of this on sale.

\$1.75
Will buy the finest double satin damask in our store or any other store in town, two yards wide. Our regular \$2 quality for \$1.75.

Napkins.
Our stock of napkins is full and overflowing and the prices were never as low. We guarantee the price on everything we sell.

§ Bleached Napkins at 75c, 85c, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50, 2.75, 3.00, 3.25, 3.50.

§ Bleached Napkins at \$2.00, 2.25, 2.50, 2.75, 3.00, 3.50, 3.75, 4.00, 4.25, 4.50, 4.75, 5.00.

§ Cream Napkins 58c, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50.

§ Cream Napkins \$1.25, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00.

Doylies.
Bleached—Round and Square at 65c, 75c, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.50.

§ Cream—Colored border, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00.

§ Bleached—Colored border, 75c, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00.

Towels.
We can show you more Towels just at present than all the other stores put together, and we can truthfully say that we have never seen better value than we are now offering.

Huck Towels
At 10c, 12c, 15c, 16c, 20c, 25c, 35c.

Damask Towels.
15c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 75c, 85c, \$1.00, \$1.25.

We have just received 25 dozen more of those Belfast Cotton Towels, size 19x45, which will be sold for 12c each.

Also 25 dozen Bleached Cotton Crepe Towels, size 18x43 (something new) will sell them next week for 10c.

Crashes.
All Linen Crash at 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 16c, 18c, 20c, 25c.

16 in. Cotton Twill Crash only 5c.

one, in order that his knowledge may insure him his job.

Dean Minney, of the Kansas Medical college, says the suit of Mrs. Higginbotham is due to a misunderstanding and will be readily adjusted when understood. The Kansas Medical college owns the "Higginbotham property," as it is called.

A SERIES OF SERMONS.
Rev. L. Blakesley will conduct Special Sunday Evening Services.

Beginning tomorrow night Rev. Dr. Blakesley will begin a series of ten sermons at the first Congregational church. He has provided special music for his Sunday night services and the discourses will be short. The sermons will be preached in the following order:

"The Brute Creation." "Healing Power." "Higher Criticism." "Bible Confirmation." "Church and Kingdom." "Best Things are to Come." "Is Topeka a Christian City?" "Law of Progress." "What is Orthodoxy?" "Is Life Worth Living?"

Special Notice.
The Ministerial union of Topeka will hold its first session in the Y. M. C. A. parlors Monday, September 16, at 10 a. m. There will be election of officers and matters of importance to consider. It is hoped that every minister in the city will be present.

A. S. EMBREE, Pres.
S. C. COBLENTZ, Sec.

D. Holmes, druggist, 731 Kansas ave.

SNAP SHOTS AT HOME NEWS.

Justice Chesney is sick with malarial fever.

Has any one heard of the occupation tax recently?

Mayor Harrison is at Des Moines, Iowa, attending court.

The Rock Island shop men at Horton were paid yesterday.

The parrot on Kansas avenue near Eighth street, is learning a new song.

The county horticultural society will meet next Thursday at Mission Center.

The corner stone of the new court house will be laid one week from today.

The school for officers of the Kansas national guard at Leavenworth closed today.

J. G. Wood addressed a Republican picnic at Wayne, Republic county, this afternoon.

The Kansas Medical college will give a reception to its new students next Tuesday evening.

The Republican flambeau club will meet tonight at county headquarters, 415 Kansas avenue.

Mrs. C. A. Ransom and Mrs. Lee Jones have returned from a two weeks' visit at Colorado Springs.

Professor J. H. Wetherell's dancing academy will give its opening reception next Friday evening.

There is a magpie in Topeka, which makes life miserable for cats which wander into his vicinity.

A. B. Quinton is having a new brick

walk built around his residence on Van Buren street.

Rain ruined the races at St. Joseph yesterday afternoon and spoiled the band concert in Topeka last night.

The presence of a dam at Topeka would be a big inducement for the new Pullman car works to come here.

Coroner Bailey wants somebody to die suddenly or commit suicide. He has had no official business for over a month.

Mr. and Mrs. George T. Nicholson have returned from Eureka Springs. Mr. Nicholson is much improved in health.

The sports are getting ready to bet their last shakels on the races next week. More work for the Associated Charities.

The Topeka Ministerial union will meet Monday morning at 10 o'clock for reorganization, at the Y. M. C. A. rooms.

County Attorney Safford has already secured convictions in ten out of fourteen criminal cases at this term of the district court.

The eyes of the young men of Topeka are directed westward to Bethany college. It opened Wednesday with 225 pupils in attendance.

A boy stole a horse weight from a delivery wagon of the Topeka grocery company yesterday, and then tried to sell it to the driver.

During the rain last evening two young ladies in light dresses with straw hats on walked unconcernedly up Kansas avenue without an umbrella.

John M. Brown made a contribution to the Republican state central committee

consisting of some apples and grapes from his farm north of the city.

The JOURNAL today prints a story that has to do a little with early Topeka history. There will be twenty people in the office Monday to point out where it is wrong.

A. Q. Wilson says he has given way to the "earnest solicitation of friends," and will not speak on the street tonight. He says he won't take back anything he has already said.

Mr. V. N. Sauerwein of Cleveland, Ohio, is visiting his brother, E. B. Whaley, and sister, Mrs. Lee Jones. He is an accomplished musician, and may locate in Topeka.

The Chicago school board is putting both tubs in the basement of all the schools. By some oversight the Topeka school board neglected to put any in the new high school.

An Indian woman recently wrote to Kansas saying she understood we had to put water to soak here before it was wet enough to drink. If she had been here last night she would have thought different.

There was a meeting of all the principals of the city schools at the high school building at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and at 4 o'clock all the teachers assembled to receive their final instructions.

The clerk at the state insane asylum is the only man about the institution who possesses the combination to the safe. He refuses to tell the combination to any-

Stevenson & Co., Dry Goods, Carpets and Millinery.